



PATENT
2959-0104P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Tom J. Whitaker Conf.: 8300
Appl. No.: 09/955,037 Group: 1634
Filed: September 19, 2001 Examiner: F. Wu
For: DETECTION OF UNLABELED DNA AND RNA
USING RESTRICTION ENZYME DIGESTION

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

April 4, 2003

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action issued December 4, 2002, the due date having been extended for one (1) month, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 1 and 8 with the following amended claims.

1. (Amended) A nucleic acid probe for detecting hybridization of unlabeled nucleic acid comprising:
an oligonucleotide having two terminal ends with

(a) a surface-coupling group, attached to one terminal end of the oligonucleotide,